

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 206729

15

ORIGIN ARA-10

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R 192153Z AUG 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMCONSUL BELIZE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 206729

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: N/A

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR COUNTRY CLEARANCE

REFS: (A) BELIZE 0719, (B) FAO MANAGUA MSG DTG 061620Z

1. FOR REASONS ABLY CITED IN PARA 2 OF REFTL (A), DEPARTMENT CAN SEE NO POSITIVE COMPELLING REASON WHY PROPOSED OVERLAND TRAVEL BETWEEN GUATEMALA AND BELIZE BY U.S. MILITARY OFFICERS SHOULD BE UNDERTAKEN IN PLANNED TIME PERIOD. THROUGH NO INTENTION OR FAULT OF TRAVELLERS, THEIR PRESENCE IN THIS SENSITIVE AREA COULD BE MISUNDERSTOOD OR MISINTERPRETED. DEPARTMENT, THEREFORE, ADVISES AGAINST THIS TRIP.

2. IF MAJOR HOWARD AND CAPTAIN ORR ARE INTERESTED IN VISITING BOTH GUATEMALA AND BELIZE, IT IS SUGGESTED THAT THEY FLY INTO BELIZE FROM A THIRD COUNTRY. IN THE COURSE OF IN-COUNTRY TRAVEL, THEY SHOULD ALSO AVOID TRAVEL ALONG THE GUATEMALA/BELIZE BORDER. ROBINSON

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